

**MINUTES**

<b>COMMISSION:</b>	<b>Environmental</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>5/15/12</b>
<b>QUORUM:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>CALLED TO ORDER:</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
		<b>ADJOURNED:</b>	<b>10:05 p.m.</b>
<b>MEMBER ATTENDANCE:</b>		<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chairman Neary; Commissioners Bateman, Glaza, Koral, Kreuzer, Gregory, Pellico, Rahn and Wescott; Staff Liaison Schrader; Trustee Liaison McGinley
		<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Student Liaison Clewlow
		<b>PUBLIC PRESENT:</b>	Kay McKeen of S.C.A.R.C.E.

1. **Call Meeting to Order –**  
Chairman Neary called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Room 301 of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.
2. **Public Participation – NONE**
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes -**  
Chairman Rahn motioned, seconded by Commissioner Glaza to approve the minutes from the March 2012 meeting with the following changes:
  - \* Page 1 - misspelling of Chris Pekerek
  - \* Page 2 - misspelling of Audubon Society
4. **Continuing Business –**
  - A. **Recycling Extravaganza and Scout Day Wrap Up -**  
Commissioner Glaza recapped how the Scout event went and said there were 150 Scouts in attendance. She also informed the Commission that she had attendees fill out surveys and all came back positive. She thanked everyone for their help and is looking forward to next year’s event.

Commissioner Pellico gave a recap of the Recycling Extravaganza and said there were about 700 cars that came through. The Commission along with Kay McKeen of S.C.A.R.C.E. went over things that they would like to do next year. Some of the items discussed included acquiring a vendor to dispose of loose batteries (such as AA) and including a shredding station. Kay informed the group that Wheaton was going to purchase a fluorescent “bulb eater”. Members also discussed ways the event could be improved such as the arrival time of Vendors and having a kickoff meeting prior to the event beginning. Chairman Neary believed a Subcommittee meeting should be scheduled so ideas for improvement could be shared while

they are still fresh. She informed the group she would send out an email to get feedback from members and dates people are available to meet for a subcommittee meeting.

Chairman Neary also informed the group that the Park District got their Earth Flag. Kay McKeen informed the group that the Glen Ellyn Library will be getting their Flag in June. She also mentioned that all Glen Ellyn schools have their flag as well. Kay, along with the commissioners, would like to see the Village get a flag too. Staff Liaison Schrader informed the group that Village Management would also like to see this happen but there is still a concern that limited staff time could be an issue. Kay informed the group that she would be willing to do all the necessary training so it does not impact staff time nor budget. Staff Liaison Schrader informed the group she would bring it up to Village Management to get further feedback and get back to the group.

Staff Liaison Schrader gave a recap of the Arbor Day event held at Panfish Park in May. Commissioner Glaza said she would like to add this to the list of accomplishments the Environmental Commission has done. After some discussion Recording Secretary Greenleaf offered to keep track of this list. Commissioner Glaza will forward to Secretary Greenleaf the template she has created and accomplishments can be reviewed at the next meeting.

#### **B. Discussion of Environmental Commission Page on the Village Website -**

Commissioner Gregory recapped the meeting she and Commissioner Kreuzer had with Village Management last month. Commissioner Kreuzer informed the group he believed the meeting went well, that Village Management listened to what he and Commissioner Gregory had to say and were overall very supportive of the Commission changing the 'Environmental' portion of the webpage. Members discussed various improvements they would like to make and Staff Liaison Schrader said that Staff appreciates any assistance and suggestions for improvements the Commission has to their webpage. Chairman Neary would like to form a Subcommittee to streamline some of the ideas discussed and figure out the best way to communicate these ideas to staff. Commissioner Gregory agreed to head this Subcommittee with participation from Commissioners Kreuzer, Koral, Glaza and Chairman Neary.

#### **C. Conservation @ Home Program -**

Commissioner Koral recapped what was discussed at the last meeting and steps she thought the Commission could take to move forward regarding the Conservation @ Home program. She also went over goals she believed the group agreed upon which included creating a sustainable Landscape Award, Creating a Sustainable Landscape Garden Walk (which would be held in September) and promoting the Conservation @ Home Program. She went on to discuss potential ways to she thought residents could get certified for the walk and also how to promote sustainable landscapes during the walk. She also informed the group this would all be done in partnership with the Conservation Foundation.

Members discussed many things regarding the topic and gave input and ideas. Commissioner Westcott thought it might be a good idea to use the expertise of the Conservation Foundation on a broader scale to help formulate a plan to help the Village during a time of heavy tree loss and serious water issues. He thought looking at the big picture and trying to help the Village as a whole might be more beneficial. Trustee Liaison McGinley thought members should follow up with the Village regarding the Garden Walk. Her thought was because the walk would technically be sponsored by the Village and people would be invited to residential homes, it

might need approval by staff. Members also discuss making the walk and the Award something that residents believe was important, having had unsuccessful garden awards in the past. Members also discussed charging for the walk and possibly using that money to landscape some Village property to get the Civic Center certified by the Conservation Foundation. Members all agreed that many ideas have been discussed and they need to focus on ones that can be handled. Chairman Neary suggested the group focus on the promotion of sustainable gardens and have some of the other ideas be longer range goals. All members believed this was a good idea.

#### **D. Commissions Goals –**

Members discussed the ‘buckets’ created to handle various ideas the Commission would like to accomplish. The Commission had decided to divided their goals into three ‘buckets’: Energy Conservation, Landscaping and Recycling. Commission Secretary Greenleaf reviewed with members each ‘bucket’ they were in. After some discussion Chairman Neary informed the group that she would try to reorganize the “buckets”. She will have something printed for the next Commission meeting so members can discuss in greater detail the members, goals and leaders for each ‘bucket.’

Chairman Neary and the Commission discussed creating a “Remember your Reusable Bag” sticker for residents to remind them to use their reusable bags when they go to the store. Chairman Neary also talked about getting signs posted throughout the Village encouraging no idling at places like schools, train stations, public buildings, etc. All members think this is a great idea and Staff Liaison Schrader informed the group that the signs would also help the Village in its Clean Air Counts goals.

Commissioner Kreuzer recapped for the group the Municipal Electric Aggregation discussion recently had at the Village Board level. He stated that it was a very informative discussion and believed the Board would be receptive to hearing more. He went over with the group how aggregation works and specifically what he thought would work for the Village. He also went over in detail the variety of options the Village has available and the companies that were available to help. Trustee McGinley agreed with Commission Kreuzer that the Board would like to hear more about aggregation and the Village’s options. Commissioner Kreuzer will keep the group informed on any developments.

#### **E. Other - NONE**

**5. Chairman’s Report – NONE**

**6. Trustee Report – NONE**

**7. Staff Liaison Report –**

Staff liaison Schrader stated that the Village President has asked the Commission to consider reviewing and providing a recommendation to the Village Board on a few items resulting from the Meet Mayor Mark Event. Staff Liaison Schrader will email the topics to the Commission prior to the next meeting. She also informed the group that she would now be the Staff Liaison for the Commission as Andrew Letson graduated from the Masters program and found a position with the Village of Northbrook.

**8. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m. The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on June 19, 2012.

Respectfully submitted by:

D'Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Kristen Schrader, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison